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## Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to:  
 MS RCE  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/719,316-Conf. #7005
Filing Date	December 11, 2000
First Named Inventor	Yasuhiko Shimizu
Art Unit	1771
Examiner Name	J. A. Boyd
Attorney Docket Number	55474(70968)

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a.  Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

ii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Enclosed

i.  Amendment/Reply      iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)      iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. Miscellaneous

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b.  Other Request for Refund for excess portion of July 8, 2003 extension fee

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 04-1105. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

i.  RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii.  Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Signature		Date	December 9, 2004
Name (Print/Type)	Richard J. Roos	Registration No.	45,053

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV517915369US, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 9, 2004

Signature: (Elisabeth Dunkle)

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Docket No. 55474 (968)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: SHIMIZU, Y.

EXAMINER: J. Boyd

SERIAL NO.: 09/719,316

GROUP: 1771

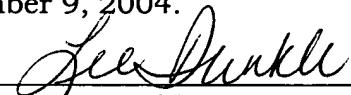
FILED: 12/11/2000

FOR: COLLAGEN MATERIAL AND ITS PRODUCTION PROCESS

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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached, enclosed or accompanying) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," Express Mail Label No. **EV517915409US** addressed to: **MAIL STOP RCE**, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on December 9, 2004.

By:

  
Lee Dunkle

Lee Dunkle

\*\*\*\*\*  
**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**  
**(FILED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION)**

Sir:

In response to the office action dated June 17, 2004, please consider the following amendments and remarks in favor of the allowance of this application. Amendments to the claims commence on page 2 and conclude on page 11 of this communication, and accompanying remarks commence on page 12 and conclude on page 15 of this communication.

The submission of this communication is considered timely based on the enclosed Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) and the enclosed authorization to charge the Small Entity Petition fee of \$510.00 to Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.